

# 8th grade Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Rising Eighth Graders,

We are so excited to begin your eighth grade journey with you this fall. In order to properly prepare for eighth grade, you need to keep up your independent reading this summer.

For this summer, your goal is to read three books (*each* from a *different* genre listed below).

For each of the books that you read, you are responsible for writing one reader response entry. That means on the first day of school, you should have your reader response notebook (a composition book) with three entries already in it.

These entries will not be as in-depth as the regular entries you will do in eighth grade, but will still help you interact with the texts you read, and show your teachers that you are reading.

Below are the different genres. You may choose any THREE different genres. The books listed are options, but not required. You can read any book, as long as they are from different genres.

<p><b>General Fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kira-Kira</li> <li>• Lord of the Flies</li> <li>• The Secret Life of Bees</li> <li>• Walk Two Moons</li> <li>• Speak</li> </ul>	<p><b>Historical Fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry</li> <li>• Maus</li> <li>• To Kill a Mockingbird</li> <li>• The Watsons go to Birmingham</li> <li>• The Book Thief</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mystery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Westing Game</li> <li>• Paper Towns</li> <li>• The Face on the Milk Carton</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fantasy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Wrinkle in Time</li> <li>• Alice in Wonderland</li> <li>• Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</li> <li>• Any Rick Riordan book</li> <li>• Harry Potter 1-7</li> </ul>	<p><b>Science Fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Maze Runner series</li> <li>• Divergent</li> <li>• Ender's Game</li> <li>• The Hunger Games Trilogy</li> <li>• Legend</li> </ul>	<p><b>Memoir (non-fiction)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Scarf Girl</li> <li>• Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo</li> <li>• Farewell to Manzanar</li> </ul>
<p><b>Biography (non-fiction)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friend Called Anne: One Girl's Story of War, Peace, and a Unique Friendship with Anne Frank</li> <li>• Into the Wild</li> <li>• Bad Boy by Walter Dean Myers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Scientific Non-fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women in Space: 23 Stories of First Flights, Scientific Missions, and Gravity-Breaking Adventures</li> <li>• Every Bone Tells a Story</li> <li>• Disasters: Natural and Manmade Catastrophes Through the Centuries</li> </ul>	<p><b>General Non-fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chasing Lincoln's Killer</li> <li>• Beyond Courage</li> <li>• Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town</li> </ul>

**Options for Reader Response. You may not repeat questions. Each response should be roughly a page in your notebook.**

**Fiction:**

1. Create an “Instagram profile” for one of the characters in the novel. Your profile should contain a bio, and at least 6 images with captions. Your images should represent traits of the character and things they might do.
2. Write a series of Twitter or Snapchat posts (at least 10) from the perspective of one of the main characters in your novel. The posts should mirror the events of the story.
3. Write two diary entries from the perspective of the protagonist and antagonist in the story, centering around one event in the story. Each diary entry should be 5-7 sentences and show the distinct point of view of that character. (One entry for the protagonist, one for the antagonist)
4. Write a letter to the author responding to the text. What did you like about it? Do you think it’s a good book for a middle school student to read? Would you recommend it to your friends? What questions do you have for the author?

**Non-Fiction:**

1. (Biography) Create a resume for the subject of the biography. Your resume should include the following sections: Education, work experience, interests and hobbies. You can find sample resumes online.
2. What have you learned from reading this text? How has this text broadened your perspective? What are you more interested in after reading this text?
3. How can you relate this text to current events going on today? Make at least three text-to-world connections and explain them in detail.
4. Write a letter to the author responding to the text. What did you like about it? Do you think it’s a good book for a middle school student to read? Would you recommend it to your friends? What questions do you have for the author?

You may email Ms. Hilarides and Ms. Colen if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Ms. Hilarides ([lhilarides@gatewaymiddle.org](mailto:lhilarides@gatewaymiddle.org))

Ms. Colen ([ecolen@gatewaymiddle.org](mailto:ecolen@gatewaymiddle.org))

Mr. Nichols